

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED COMMITTEE  
FOR ENERGY POLICY AND LTEA FOLLOW-UP

REF: A. PARIS 2104

B. STATE 41525

SUMMARY: AT COUNCIL MEETING FEB. 25, SECGEN'S PROPOSAL TO MERGE OIL AND ENERGY COMMITTEES INTO NEW COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY POLICY (CEP) WAS SUPPORTED IN PRINCIPLE. CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, HOWEVER, WAS DEVOTED TO QUESTION OF PROPER SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES OF NEW COMMITTEE, AND SECGEN AGREED TO SUBMIT SPECIFIC CEP MANDATE FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING. SECGEN ALSO AGREED REVISE HIS PROPOSALS ON RELATED QUESTION OF LTEA FOLLOW-UP FOR DISCUSSION AT SUBSEQUENT COUNCIL MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY POLICY: COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 25 DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION TO SECRETARY GENERAL'S PROPOSAL (REF A) TO MERGE EXISTING OECD ENERGY AND OIL COMMITTEES INTO NEW COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY POLICY  
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(CEP). NO DELEGATION OBJECTED TO MERGER PROPOSAL IN

PRINCIPLE, ALTHOUGH AUSTRALIA SAID IT SAW "NO NEED FOR COOPERATION IN OECD ON ENERGY POLICY, SINCE THIS IS ALREADY BEING DONE IN IEA, AND AUSTRALIA WOULD NOT ATTEND COMMITTEE IF IT WERE FORMED." EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION WAS DEVOTED, HOWEVER, TO POSSIBLE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEE SUGGESTED (INDIRECTLY) BY SECRETARY-GENERAL IN DRAFT COUNCIL RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CEP (C(75)14) AND IN PARA 10 OF C(74)259 IN LTEA FOLLOW-UP.

2. FRENCH REP VALERY STRESSED THAT SECGEN'S PROPOSAL WAS AN "IMPORTANT MATTER." HE SAID RECENT EVENTS INDICATED THAT ENERGY, TRADE, DEVELOPMENT AND MONETARY POLICIES ARE ALL LINKED AND GOF BELIEVES THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF CEP IS NECESSARY IF OECD-WIDE COOPERATION ON THE ENERGY ASPECTS OF THESE ISSUES IS TO HAVE ANY MEANING. FRANCE BELIEVES CEP SHOULD BE CHARGED WITH MANDATE OF FORMER OIL AND ENERGY COMMITTEES AND HAVE SUB-GROUPS OF THESE COMMITTEES REPORT TO IT. COUNCIL NEEDS TO EXAMINE WHETHER ALL OF COMMITTEE WORKING PARTIES AND HIGH LEVEL GROUP (HLG) SHOULD CONTINUE; FRANCE IS NOT READY TO DO AWAY WITH HLG AT THIS POINT. VALERY SAID ALTHOUGH FRANCE PREFERS COMMITTEE OF INDEFINITE DURATION, HE THOUGHT GOF COULD ACCEPT FIVE-YEAR TERM PROPOSED BY SECGEN IF THIS WAS THE MAJORITY VIEW.

3. IN ADDITION TO FRANCE' FRG, FINLAND, IRELAND, NORWAY AND GREECE SAID THEY COULD ACCEPT FORMULATION AS DRAFTED. MOST OTHER DELS EXPRESSED CERTAIN RESERVATIONS, OR SUGGESTED SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS, TO SECGEN'S PROPOSALS. CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT EVENTUALLY DEVELOPED FOR ONE OR MORE OF FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS PUT FORWARD BY SWEDISH DEL:

A. SECGEN SHOULD PREPARE A SPECIFIC MANDATE FOR THE NEW COMMITTEE, AND SUBMIT IT TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.

B. PARA 2 OF DRAFT COUNCIL RESOLUTION, WHICH STATES THAT THE "COMMITTEE'S COMPETENCE SHOULD EXTEND TO ALL ASPECTS OF ENERGY POLICY AND ALL ENERGY RESOURCES," SHOULD BE DELETED.

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C. PARA 3 OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SHOULD BE RESTRUCTURED TO PROVIDE ONLY THAT THE EXISTING WORKING PARTIES AND GROUPS OF THE OIL AND ENERGY COMMITTEES WILL CONTINUE IN EXISTENCE UNTIL NEW MANDATE IS AGREED. (NOTE: IMPLICATION IS THAT HLG WOULD NOT AUTOMATICALLY CONTINUE IN EXISTENCE, AS DESIRED BY SECGEN, BUT WOULD HAVE TO BE REESTABLISHED UNDER CEP MANDATE--AN UNCERTAIN

EVENTUALITY IN VIEW OF OPPOSITION FROM NON-HLG PARTICIPANTS.)

4. SWISS, DANES AND SPANISH TOOK CAUTIOUS STANCE TOWARD

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CEP PROPOSAL. SWISS STRESSED THAT, IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF ISSUES BEING ADDRESSED, GOS WOULD WISH STUDY VERY CAREFULLY MANDATE TO BE PREPARED BY SECGEN BEFORE GIVING FINAL APPROVAL TO ESTABLISHMENT OF CEP. DANES SAID THEY FAILED SEE ANY URGENCY IN ESTABLISHING COMMITTEE AT THIS TIME AND DID NOT SEE ANY NEED FOR DEVELOPING ELABORATE MANDATE FOR NEW COMMITTEE ON PRIORITY BASIS. DANES FELT ANY NEW COMMITTEE SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO UPDATING LTEA, AND PERFORMING LIAISON FUNCTION WITH IEA (AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 4 OF DRAFT RESOLUTION).

5. JAPANESE DELEGATE SAID GOJ BELIEVES THAT SINCE ALL URGENT ISSUES IN ENERGY FIELD ARE NOW BEING ADDRESSED IN IEA THERE IS CLEAR NEED FOR A FORUM TO CARRY OUT LIAISON BETWEEN IEA AND NON-IEA COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT

ENERGY TASKS OF ORGANIZATION AS A WHOLE ARE CARRIED OUT. THIS LIAISON ACTIVITY SHOULD BE MOST IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE (SEVERAL OTHER DELS ALSO MENTIONED NEED FOR SUCH LIAISON FUNCTION). JAPANESE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT CEP MANDATE SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO FUNCTIONS OF OLD OIL AND ENERGY COMMITTEES, SINCE MOST OF THESE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FUNCTIONS HAVE NOW BEEN TAKEN OVER BY IEA. CEP THEREFORE SHOULD ALSO BE CHARGED WITH LTEA FOLLOW-UP. (NOTE: IN RESPONSE TO MISSION QUERY AFTER MEETING, GOJ DEL SAID HIS REMARKS ON PARA 4 OF DRAFT RESOLUTION SHOULD NOT IN ANY WAY BE CONSTRUED TO MEAN THAT GOJ IS WITHDRAWING ITS SUPPORT FROM FORMULATION FOR CONTACTS WITH FRENCH APPROVED BY IEA GOVERNING BOARD. GOJ DOES BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT OECD SOLIDARITY REQUIRES SOME FORUM TO CONVEY INFO TO NON-IEA MEMBERS RE AGENCY ACTIVITIES. COMMUNICATION WOULD BE ONE-WAY AND WOULD NOT ALLOW FOR CEP INFLUENCING IEA ACTIVITIES.)

6. UK SUPPORTED SWEDISH POSITION. US SAID USG COULD ACCEPT, IN PRINCIPLE ESTABLISHMENT OF CEP. US COULD ALSO ACCEPT AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE SWEDISH DEL. HOWEVER, US SEES NO SENSE OF URGENCY OR NEED FOR HIGH DEGREE OF SPECIFICITY IN DEVELOPING MANDATE.

7. COMMENT: SECGEN AGREED PREPARE SPECIFIC MANDATE FOR CEP FOR DISCUSSION AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. IT IS APPARENT FROM COUNCIL DISCUSSION, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION WITHIN GROUP CONCERNING PROPER SCOPE OF NEW COMMITTEE, AND SECGEN MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY IN GETTING AGREEMENT TO BROAD TERMS OF REFERENCE HE HAD ORIGINALLY CONTEMPLATED.

8. LTEA FOLLOW-UP: MOST DELS SUPPORTED SWEDISH PROPOSAL THAT PARA (A) OF DRAFT ENTRY BE AMENDED TO INDICATE THAT COUNCIL "TOOK NOTE OF" RATHER THAN "ENDORSED" LTEA'S POLICY CONCLUSIONS. UK AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS PREFERRED FORMULATION, "WELCOMED AS A BASIS FOR FURTHER WORK". US INDICATED IT COULD ACCEPT EITHER AMENDED WORDING.

9. OPINION WAS DIVIDED ON UK PROPOSAL TO DELETE FIRST PART OF PARA (B) OF DRAFT ENTRY ("INVITED THE CEP TO REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS OF POLICY SIGNIFICANCE AT NATIONAL LEVEL AND TO DEVELOP COOPERATIVE APPROACHES TO POLICY ISSUES...") ON GROUND THIS POINT SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR SUBSEQUENT, DETAILED DISCUSSION OF MANDATE FOR CEP. FRENCH AMBASSADOR ARGUED THAT FORMULATION WAS "VERY MILD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS IT IS" AND PROVIDED AT LEAST MINIMAL MANDATE FOR CEP.

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10. ON R AND D ASPECTS, DEPSEC GEN ELDIN SAID SECRETARIAT WAS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE CONCRETE PROPOSALS WITHOUT FURTHER UNOFFICIAL CONTACT WITH DELEGATIONS. PARA (G) OF DRAFT ENTRY WAS, THEREFORE, LEFT UNSPECIFIC, BUT SEC GEN FELT MEANS MUST BE FOUND TO "PROPERLY COORDINATE AND HARMONIZE" OECD'S OWN WORK IN THIS FIELD WITH THAT OF NEA AND IEA. US SUGGESTED THAT PHRASE "AS MATTER OF URGENCY" BE DELETED, SINCE SECRETARIAT ITSELF HAD SAID IT IS NOT YET PREPARED TO MAKE CONCRETE PROPOSALS. FRENCH AMBASSADOR DID NOT OBJECT TO DELETION OF THIS PHRASE BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THIS IS IMPORTANT PROBLEM WITH WHICH SEC GEN SHOULD DEAL ON AN URGENT BASIS.

HE ADDED THAT R AND D ASPECT IS PROBLEM WHICH SHOULD BE  
DEALT WITH "IN SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WITHOUT DOGMATISM."

11. REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS, ELDIN PROPOSED  
CHANGE IN WORDING NETHERLANDS NOTE CES/75.06, SUBPARA  
(H), SUBSTITUTING "NOTED THAT" FOR "INVITED" THUS  
COVERING POINT IN STATE 041525, PARA 5. COUNCIL AGREED  
TO CHANGE. ON CES/75.06 SUBPARA (G) US PROPOSED WORDING  
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PER REFTEL PARA 4, BUT WAS NOT SUPPORTED BY OTHER DELS.  
NETHERLANDS PERMDEL MADE STRONG PITCH TO KEEP ORIGINAL  
WORDING OF HIS PROPOSAL.

12. SECGEN WILL ATTEMPT NEW WORDING FOR C(74)259  
ACCEPTABLE TO ALL DELEGATIONS FOR DISCUSSION AT  
SUBSEQUENT COUNCIL MEETING.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 FEB 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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